

Serial No. 10/686,476

Amendment in Resp. to Off. Action of May 10, 2006

UTILITY PATENT

B&amp;D No. JK01483A

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for providing workpiece positioning, comprising:

a support surface for supporting a workpiece;

an adjustable retention member movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface for providing workpiece positioning, the retention member having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

a securing mechanism, connected to the retention member, the securing mechanism being constructed for securing the retention member in a desired orientation;

wherein the retention member is capable of pivotally obtaining an extended orientation disposed substantially above the support surface and a retracted orientation disposed below the support surface, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the support surface when the retention member is in the retracted position, and the retention member being movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface when the retention member is in the extended orientation.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): An apparatus for providing workpiece positioning, comprising:

a deck for supporting a workpiece;

an adjustable positioning device disposed within the deck;

a retention member connected to the adjustable positioning device for providing workpiece positioning, the retention member having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

a securing mechanism connected to the retention member, for securing the retention

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member in a desired orientation;

wherein the retention member is capable of pivotally obtaining an extended orientation exterior to the deck and a substantially retracted orientation substantially retracted into the deck for storage, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the deck when the retention member is in the retracted position, and the retention member being movable relative to the deck along a direction substantially parallel to the deck when the retention member is in the extended orientation.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein an adjustable positioning device is a threaded rod.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the retention member includes an aperture with segmented threads for pivotally engaging the threaded rod.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of spring biased tabs.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of generally opposing deformable tabs.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of pivotal tabs.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the apparatus is integrated with a power tool.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An apparatus for providing retractable workpiece positioning, comprising:

a housing including a support surface for supporting a workpiece, the support surface

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having a recess therein;

an adjustable positioning device disposed generally in the housing recess;

a retention member adjustably connected to the adjustable positioning device, said retention member, being configured to pivotally obtain an extended orientation and a retracted orientation for providing workpiece positioning, the retention member having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

a securing mechanism connected to the retention member, for securing the retention member in at least one of the extended orientation and the retracted orientation;

wherein the retention member is capable of pivotally extending exterior to the housing and retracting substantially below the support surface, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the support surface when the retention member is in the retracted position, and the retention member being movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface when the retention member is in the extended orientation.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein further comprising an attachment device connected to the housing for attaching the apparatus to a deck.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the adjustable positioning device is a threaded rod.

Claim 14 (original): The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the retention member includes an aperture with segmented threads for engaging the threaded rod.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of spring biased tabs.

Claim 16 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of

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generally opposing deformable tabs.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of pivotal tabs.

Claim 18 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the housing is included in a work deck.

Claim 19 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is integrated with a power tool.

Claim 20 (currently amended): An apparatus for workpiece positioning, comprising:

a support surface for supporting a workpiece;

means for adjustable positioning;

means for retaining a workpiece in a desired position, the retaining means having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

means for securing the retaining means, the securing means being capable of securing the retaining means in a desired orientation;

wherein the retaining means is capable of obtaining an extended orientation disposed substantially above the support surface and a substantially retracted orientation disposed below the support surface, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the support surface when the retention means is in the retracted position, and the retention means being movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface when the retention means is in the extended orientation.

Claim 21 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the adjustable positioning means is a threaded rod.

Claim 22 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the retaining means is adjustably

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connected to the adjustable positioning means.

Claim 23 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the retaining means is a cleat.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the securing means is a pair of spring biased tabs.

Claim 25 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the securing means is a pair of deformable tabs.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): A method for providing unobstrusive workpiece positioning, comprising:

- positioning workpiece on a power tool deck;
- orientating a retention member pivotally into an extended orientation, suitable for contacting the workpiece;
- adjusting the retention member to the desired position; and
- retracting the retention member below the power tool deck work surface.